

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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43

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 DHA-02 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /076 W

----- 114176

R 071055Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7464

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

CONFIDENTIAL COTONOU 1154

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, DM

SUBJ: DAHOMEAN AMBASSADORS RECALLED

REF COTONOU 1129

1. FOLLOWING ON THE HEELS OF THE DEFECTION OF DAHOMEY'S AMB TO BELGIUM, GRATIEN POGNON, THE DAHOMEAN GOVT HAS RECALLED ALL OF ITS AMBASSADORS HOME ON "CONSULATION". DAHOMEY HAS 6 OTHER AMBASSADORS, (PARIS, BONN, OTTAWA, KINSHASA, LAGOS AND WASHINGTON). THERE IS ALSO ONE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES (PEKING) AND A PERM REP (NIAMEY), BUT WE ARE UNCERTAIN IF THEY ARE INCLUDED IN THE RECALL ORDER. GOVT ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT THE PASSPORTS OF AMB POGNON AND HIS FAMILY HAVE BEEN WITHDRAWN.

2. COMMENT: AS NOTED IN REF THREE AMBASSADORS (PARIS, BONN AND LAGOS) WILL PROBABLY BE SACKED UPON RETURN TO COTONOU. IT IS QUITE POSSIBLE THAT AT LEAST ONE OR TWO OF THEM WILL IGNORE THE RECALL ORDER AND REFUSE TO RETURN TO DAHOMEY. THE KEREKOU REGIME WILL BE HARD PRESSED TO FIND COMPETENT RE-PLACEMENTS.

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CHESSES

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NNN

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